



CAMPAIGN for INDEPENDENT BROADCASTING

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Formerly-National Commercial Radio Movement

Dear Friends,

Here is the promised newsletter, which follows the recent news-sheet which gave you information about the new off-shore station, Radio Nordsee International, and our activities in Parliament.

Radio Nordsee International has now re-commenced tests, on the frequency of 244 metres, (1232 khz). We presume that by the time you receive this newsletter that this will have resumed full programming on that frequency.

We have also received a number of enquiries about a station calling itself, Radio Geronimo. The station operates from Monte Carlo every Saturday night/Sunday morning on 205 metres (1466 khz) and it broadcasts programmes based on the format of American FM radio. The station is perfectly legal. Their programmes are centred around the theme of "progressive" type music. In the future they hope to start up a mail order system for the records played on the station. They will charge the normal price, plus 1/6d for postage & packing, this is because many listeners have had difficulty in obtaining some of the records played on the station in the past. They broadcast from 12 midnight until 3 a.m. at present. They hope to extend transmissions into the early evening, and also some mid-week programming in the future. This is of course dependant upon audience figures etc.

If you want to write to Radio Nordsee International the address is P.O.Box 113, Zurich 8047, Switzerland (9d stamp). Radio Geronimo operates from 1, Harley Street, London W.1. When writing, please mention, C.I.B.

We have still available a few of our fast-disappearing Sound Broadcasting Studies. This is a 10 page booklet which outlines how independent radio could be set up in this country, by making better use of the frequencies allocated to this country. The cost of the booklet is only 2/-.

Car Stickers. These have just been printed for the Campaign for Independent Broadcasting and includes our symbol which is now gradually appearing on all our material. The stickers are printed in Red and Black, and are on a bright yellow background. Yes - 3 colour car stickers! The wording is "Fight monopoly - Free Radio Means Free Choice". The slogan that was so successful on our old stickers. They measure approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x 19" and really stand out. The price is only 6d each. It is probably the cheapest car sticker of its type on sale today.

Posters. We hope to have some printed in the next few weeks. They will be size 20" x 15" and they will sell for 1/- each. If you want one as soon as they are available, write today, and we will send it to you as soon as they are ready.

We now have a Special Offer. If you buy 12 copies of the Sound Broadcasting Study, we will not charge you 24/-, not even £1, but 18/-. We will give you a 25% discount, and you can re-sell them and make 6d per copy profit for yourself. The stickers will also be sold cheaply at only 4/6d per dozen. These will also give you 25% profit on each one you sell. The posters will be 9/- for 12. REMEMBER by buying our publicity material you are helping our funds, which enables us to help YOU.

If you have any suggestions about activities or publicity etc., which you feel we could do, don't keep it to yourself it may be excellent - let us know. Remember you are a vital part of the organisation.

We are keeping a Press Cutting file of all mentions of the C.I.B. We manage to cover the national press, but on some local newspapers we are missing out. If you see anything about us in your local press, either cut it out and send it to us, for which we will be most grateful, or let us know the date and the name of the paper, so that we can check if we already have it. If we have not, we shall try to obtain a copy ourselves. Your help would be gratefully appreciated.

Incidentally, this can work in reverse. If you see something that you think we can comment on, please let us know as soon as you possibly can.

Looking back over the past three years, that we have been campaigning for independent radio, many of your committee members have spent long hours in Parliament. We have learned a great deal about politics in our dealings with M.P's from all parties. Of the relatively small number of M.P's that control the present Government, we have come to realise, that no pleas, research or suggestions from listeners will ever alter their policy of upholding and even increasing monopolies. There is a small section of Labour M.P's who are in favour of additional radio stations other than the B.B.C. but on a tightly controlled basis, to utilise any of their profits to support the B.B.C. We are totally opposed to this. What are the other parties offering?

The Liberal Party is generally in favour of additional radio stations, but here their policy is not particularly clearly laid out, and does not form a major line of thought within the party.

The Conservative Party has a declared policy of establishing local commercial radio. Many Conservative M.P's seek a widening of the field beyond local commercial radio. We are as you know, advocating regional independent radio and other forms of non-commercial broadcasting, i.e. University Radio. We believe that the Conservative policy can be expanded to include our views.

The General Election is possible within weeks or months. These are the facts presented by the parties as we see them. Time is desperately short for us to influence the issue. The balance between the Conservative and Labour parties is running very close. Now is the time to take every chance to bring the Government's record and policies in broadcasting, and monopoly control before the public. Many people do not realise these facts and your help in putting them over in local and national newspapers, could be vital. We shall shortly be issuing stickers (providing that the election is not held in June or July), which can go up alongside our radio stickers. They will outline the Government's policy of monopoly and state control, meaning less choice for the public and employees.

Here are some facts which you can use when referring to the Government's policies:-

G.P.O. Press Release 8.11.67: "Mr. Edward Short, P.M.G. said at the opening of B.B.C. Radio Leicester.

'Clearly it would be unfair to pay for Radio Leicester out of income from the receiving licence, otherwise people in rural areas would have to contribute towards a service they could never receive. Local radio is to be broadcast on V.H.F. and not Medium Wave because each country has a limited number of medium wavelengths allocated by International Agreement. All ours are at present in use, and there are none available for local radio'."

From this you can judge the way in which the Government has reversed its declarations in order to support the B.B.C. monopoly.

- (a) B.B.C. local radio, is now to be financed by income from the licence fee. People in rural areas WILL be paying by the licence fee for radio they cannot receive.
- (b) Medium wave frequencies HAVE been made available to thwart their possible use by independent radio.

Thank you in advance for your assistance at this vital time.

Yours sincerely,

THE COMMITTEE.